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Price .30

Franklin St. Clean-up Successful

By PAULETTE WALLACE

The 6.5 acre Franklin St. site, previously owned by Henry Merry and known by residents as the Merry Dump, has finally been cleared of old vehicles and other junk which covered the major portion of the property. The new owner, developer Al Greyhound of Needham, bought the property for \$100,000 through Peter Prescott of the Chase Group Realtors. Closing of the sale took place July 26. Clean-up began the following week.

This property has been the cause of controversy and legal actions over the past 3 or 4 years, starting when neighbors sent a petition to selectmen complaining that the site was an eyesore and possible health hazard.

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MERRY'S DUMP

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Merry, who was in the salvage business, had been battling with the town for years over the junk which he stored on the site. In 1979 Town Counsel David Turner took legal action and the town was awarded a Master's Judgment (a master is appointed by the courts to assist a

judge by hearing and reporting on matters referred to him) against Merry, requiring him to clean up the property. Merry, through his attorney, appealed the judgment to the Superior Court.

In March 1980 the town was awarded a Superior Court judgment against Merry. The judgment required Merry to file a plan for removal of salvage with the board of health by June 1, 1980 and have the property cleaned up by July 1, 1980. Turner

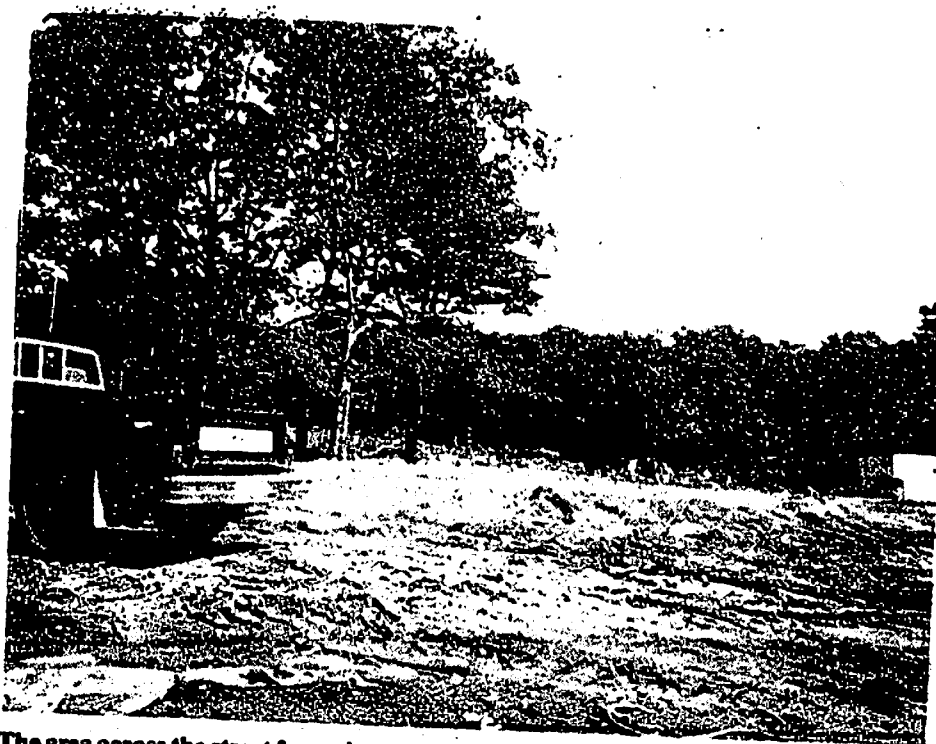
told selectmen if this failed he would file a subsequent order as well as contempt of court charges against Merry. Merry did not comply and the case again went into court.

During the legal battle Merry put the property on the market. Greymount offered to buy the property if he could build condominiums on the site. This idea was not acceptable to the town and the property remained on the market.

Greymount estimated the clean-up cost would be approximately \$10,000. He plans to sell individual house lots, which will conform to the present zoning.

To residents, the sale of the property to Greymount has been a boon. For the first time in years the area is clear of debris. Some residents are still upset that it required the sale of the property to get the clean-up done. They felt the town should have accomplished the clean-up years ago.

But the town took the only course available -- the court system. This system accounts for the time and money spent in pursuing recourse against Merry.



The area across the street from the dwelling is receiving finishing touches in clean-up project.



Area beside former Henry Merry dwelling was first to be cleared of debris.